

**CHRISTOPHER T. ADAMS**  
*Legislative District 37B*  
Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot,  
and Wicomico Counties

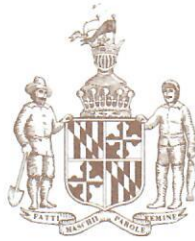
Economic Matters Committee

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The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 405  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3343 · 301-858-3343  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3343  
Christopher.Adams@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB 1140

Voluntary Firewood Certification Program-Establishment

- ***Why is the Bill being introduced?***

To replace a dry kiln certification program for the destruction of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), which is being discontinued by the USDA.

- ***What does the Bill do?***

The bill establishes a voluntary dry kiln certification program that enables State-licensed forest operators a.k.a those who produce firewood for sale; to secure bona fide DNR certification by the State and not USDA, to sell firewood in those markets who want proof that EAB have been destroyed through the heat drying process.

- ***Why is it important to pass now?***

With USDA no longer certifying any dry kiln in America for its destruction of EAB, the states are left to themselves to do so in order to safely ship firewood to other states that want guaranteed protection that firewood being received is free of EAB.